

Message Text

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FOLLOWING REPEAT ISLAMABAD 4705 ACTION SECSTATE DATED MAY 11:

QTE: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISLAMABAD 4705

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, EAID, PK

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS CONTROL AND THE AID TO PAKISTAN CONSORTIUM

REF: (A) ISLAMABAD 4704 (B) ISLAMABAD 10791 (1977)

1. AS INDICATED IN REFTEL A, THIS CABLE PROVIDES THE DRAFT LANGUAGE FOR USG POSITION ON NARCOTICS FOR THE JUNE 1-2 CONSORTIUM MEETING.

2. WE FEEL THAT REFTEL B, IS STILL VALID AND WE URGE ITS INCLUSION IN THE CONSORTIUM MEETING. IN LINE WITH THIS, WE ASK THAT DEPARTMENT REQUEST APPROPRIATE EMBASSIES TO CONSULT WITH THE CONSORTIUM GOVERNMENTS, AND AUTHORIZE US TO INFORM THE GOP OF WHAT WE WILL SAY AT THE CONSORTIUM MEETING.

3. FOLLOWING DRAFT STATEMENT IS LARGELY A REPEAT OF STATEMENT SUGGESTED IN REFTEL (B): "NARCOTICS CONTROL IS RECOGNIZED AS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IMPORTANT TO PAKISTAN AND TO EVERY MEMBER OF THE CONSORTIUM. THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS AND NARCOTICS CONTROL ARE RELATED. PAKISTAN PRODUCES SEVERAL HUNDRED TONS OF OPIUM ANNUALLY, ALMOST ENTIRELY FROM POPPIES IN THE NORTHWEST FRONTIER PROVINCE. FARMERS IN SOME PARTS OF THIS UNDERDEVELOPED REGION OF PAKISTAN HAVE NO ECONOMIC ALTERNATIVE TO POPPY AS A CASH CROP. IN SPITE OF EFFORTS OF THE GOVERN-

MENT OF PAKISTAN ITSELF AND IN COOPERATION WITH THE UNITED STATES AND THE UNITED NATIONS TO CONTROL POPPY PRODUCTION, THE LACK OF DEVELOPMENT INFRA-STRUCTURE, CREDIT EXTENSION AND OTHER ECONOMIC PREREQUISITES TO EFFICIENT CASH CROPPING HAS SERIOUSLY HAMPERED THE REDUCTION OF POPPY CULTIVATION IN THE NWFP. A COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR THE NWFP WOULD BROADEN THAT REGION'S ECONOMIC BASE AND HELP TO PROVIDE FARMERS WITH ECONOMIC ALTERNATIVES TO POPPY CULTIVATION. IN CONJUNCTION WITH A STRONG ENFORCEMENT EFFORT, WHICH WE RECOGNIZE AS ESSENTIAL, THIS WOULD REDUCE THE FLOW OF NARCOTICS INTO CONSORTIUM COUNTRIES FROM PAKISTAN. IT WOULD ALSO CONSTITUTE A SOCIALLY DESIRABLE ADDITION TO PAKISTAN'S DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY. WE URGE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN, IN COOPERATION WITH CONSORTIUM COUNTRIES, PREPARE SUCH A COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE NWFP, WHICH WOULD HAVE AS ONE OF ITS AIMS THE PROGRESSIVE SUBSTITUTION OF PROFITABLE AND SOCIALLY DESIRABLE CROPS FOR POPPY PRODUCTION. SUCH A PLAN WOULD PROVIDE A VEHICLE FOR INTERESTED DONORS TO LEND SUPPORT TO BOTH DEVELOPMENT AND POPPY ERADICATION EFFORTS. THE UNITED STATES STANDS READY TO HELP WITH SUCH PLANNING AND WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN POPPY-GROWING AREAS AND TO COOPERATE WITH OTHER CONSORTIUM COUNTRIES. WE HOPE OTHER DONORS WILL LEND THEIR SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE TO SUCH A MULTI-LATERAL EFFORT."

HUMMEL UNQTE VANCE

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